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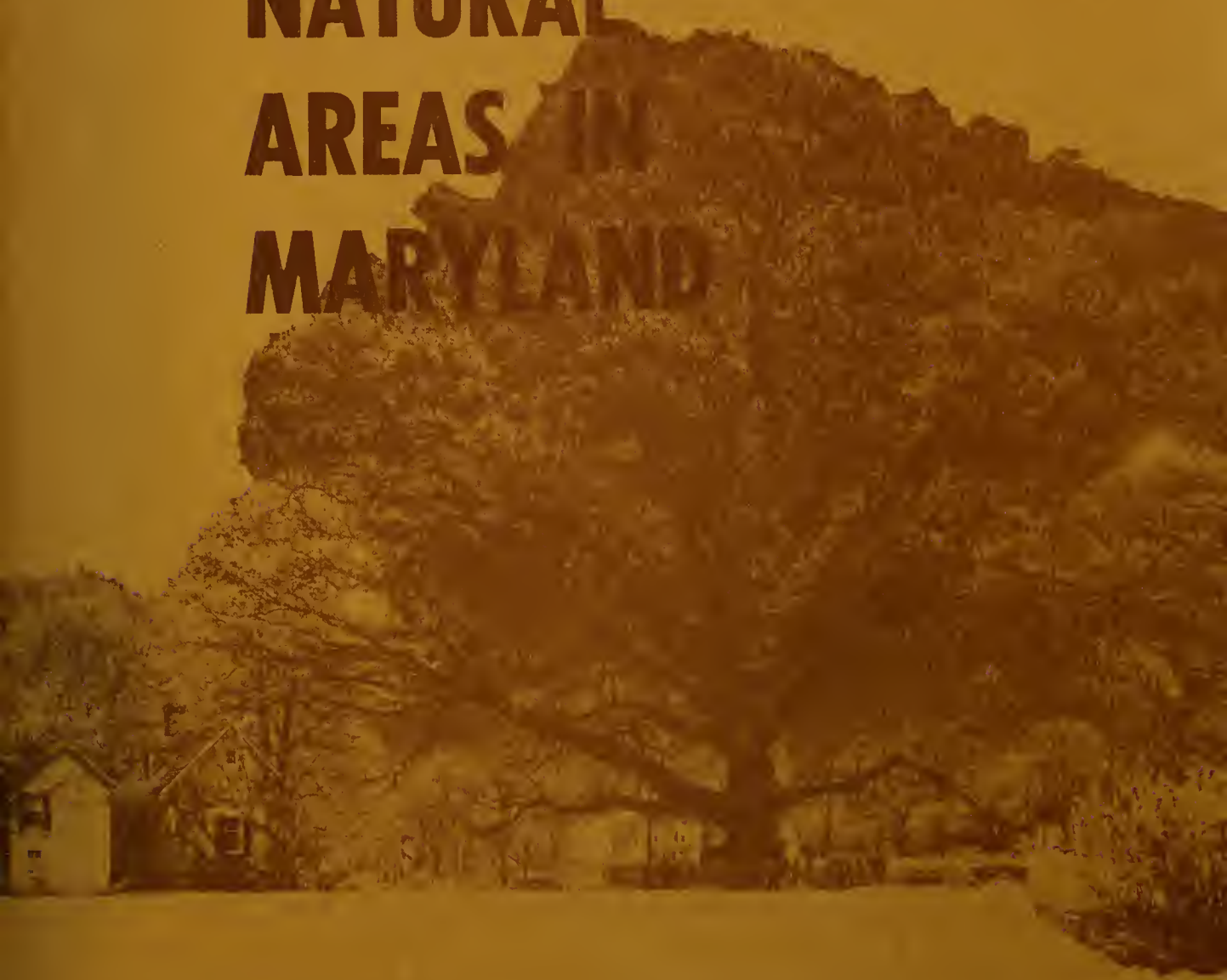
CATALOG OF NATURAL AREAS IN MARYLAND



MARYLAND STATE PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Wye Oak, pictured on the cover, is the official State tree of Maryland. Located in Wye Mills on Maryland's Eastern Shore, this magnificent white oak is one of the largest in the United States. It was over 100 years old when Leonard Calvert led Maryland's first colonists ashore in March of 1634. Photograph courtesy of Maryland Department of Economic Development.

The preparation of this document was financially aided through a Federal grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Urban Planning Assistance Program Authorized by Section 701 of the Housing Act of 1954, as amended.

MARYLAND STATE PLANNING DEPARTMENT

STATE OFFICE BUILDING
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201

Publication No. 148 August 1968

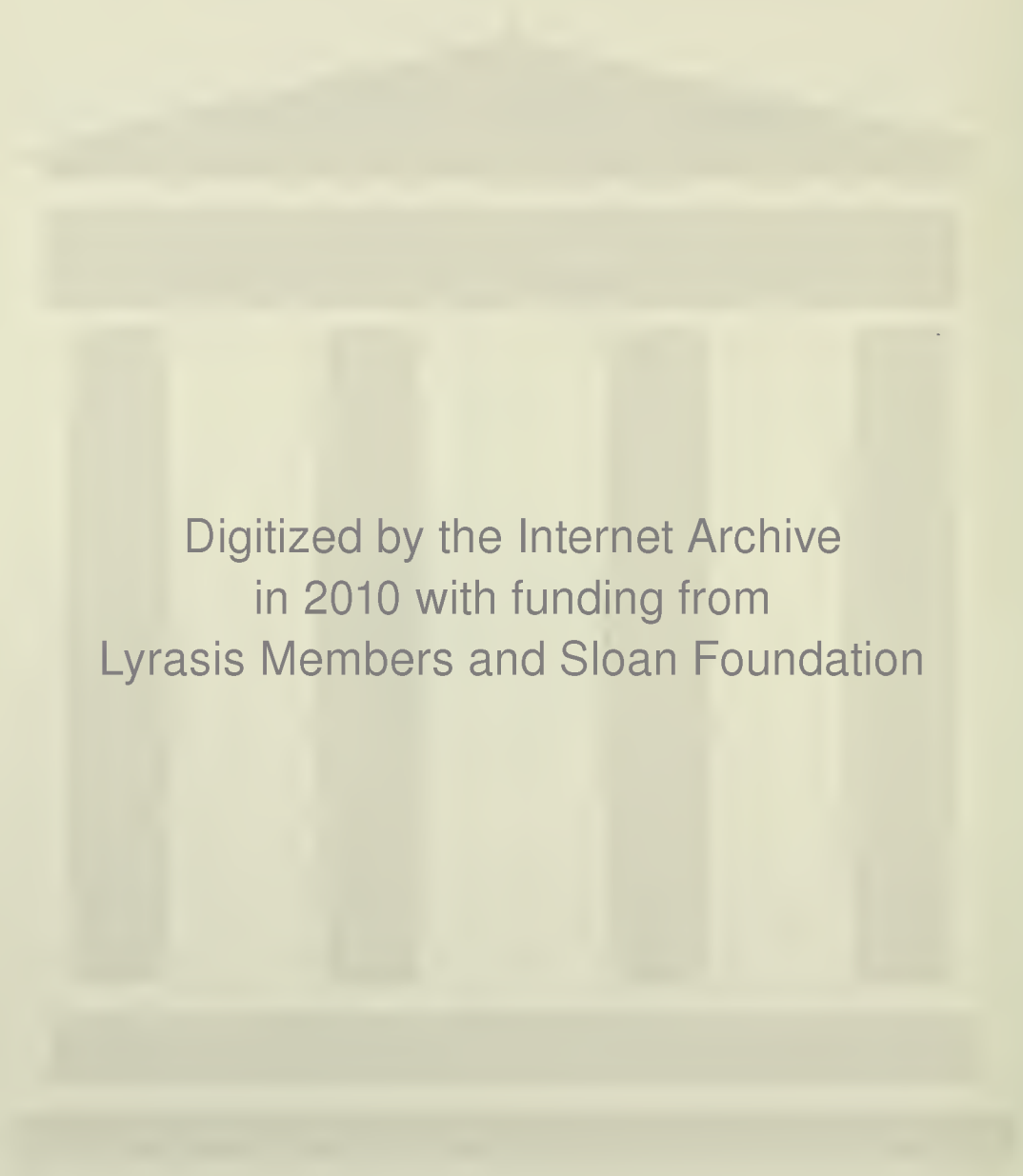
Catalog Of Natural Areas In Maryland

STATE OF MARYLAND

Spiro T. Agnew, Governor

Maryland State Planning Department

James J. O'Donnell, Director



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STATE OF MARYLAND

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

STATE OFFICE BUILDING

JAMES J. O'DONNELL
DIRECTOR

301 W. PRESTON ST.
BALTIMORE, MD. 21201

TELEPHONE: 383-3010

August 12, 1968

Honorable Spiro T. Agnew
Governor of Maryland
The State House
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Governor Agnew:

I am pleased to transmit the enclosed report titled, Catalog of Natural Areas in Maryland. This report is another in the series being developed for the State-Wide Planning Program administered by this Department. In the near future several other reports will be forthcoming on studies of outdoor recreation, land use, physical development patterns, economic resources and economic growth. In addition, you have already received a report on Maryland populations titled, The Population of Maryland: Projections to 1980.

The catalog presented herewith contains some basic information on certain natural areas in Maryland. In compiling this information, we were aided materially by a Technical Advisory Committee, a group with various expertise concerning natural areas formed to support and advise study efforts. Therefore, you may be assured that a fine selection of Maryland's natural areas was inventoried before final inclusion and presentation here.

We feel sure that this catalog will be useful to many individuals, organizations, agencies and departments in both the private and public sectors who are concerned with preserving and managing some of Maryland's remaining natural areas and open space. To do this, however, they all must first become aware of these areas which exist around them. This catalog should fill that need. Copies of this catalog are being distributed appropriately throughout the State.

Sincerely yours,

James J. O'Donnell

James J. O'Donnell
Director

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*NOTE: Positions held by the Committeemen are those at the time of the study.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Sincere appreciation is expressed to the Technical Advisory Committee on Natural Areas of Maryland for their support and contributions to the study which produced this catalog.

In the gathering of data many State and local agencies, county and municipal governments, and quasi-public organizations too numerous to mention individually here also played an integral part and contributed generously. Their cooperation assures this catalog of providing the best information available on its subject at this time. Such cooperation and contributions are greatly appreciated by the State Planning Department.

Credit for major Departmental efforts on this catalog is assignable to Gerald F. Vaughn and John T. Starr, Jr., both formerly with the State Planning Department.

Finally, special praise is due Miss Sondra Oglesby of the State Planning Department for her assistance throughout the formulation of this catalog. Also, the editorial assistance from Mmes. Eva Land, Pat Russell and Sue Elder of the State Planning Department was invaluable in preparing this document.

R. G. Metzgar (Editor)
Natural Resources Planner

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to briefly present some basic information on certain natural areas within the State of Maryland. These areas were identified, investigated, and cataloged by the Technical Advisory Committee on Natural Areas of Maryland.

There are many definitions existing on natural areas. One may choose whichever fits his personal preference. The definition presented here was chosen because it seems to adequately describe the areas presented herein.

Natural areas are "areas where at present natural processes predominate and are not significantly influenced by either deliberate manipulation or accidental interference by man."[1]

In addition to areas fitting the definition above some other areas with different types of values (other than natural) are included in this catalog. This was done to provide a broader spectrum of interests. Thus, areas having unique historical, geological or ecological value or a combination of such values are represented in this catalog. All of the areas cataloged are considered to be of at least statewide significance by the Advisory Committee and some have perhaps regional and even national significance. Finally, whenever possible the areas selected had to be in a natural state or near natural condition and not show evidence of recent disturbances that would impair their value.

It is hoped that this document will create an awareness of the existence of these natural areas and acknowledgment of their usefulness.

---

[1] Suggested in a letter received from the Natural Area Council, March 13, 1965.

VALUE OF NATURAL AREAS

Science

The scientific value of natural areas is often overlooked or neglected. Scientists from many disciplines depend upon natural areas as the sources of their basic information. These areas provide the "controls," the "standards" or the "common denominators" by which various resource management programs can be evaluated. Research on the vegetation and soils of natural areas can be applied to silvicultural, agricultural, soil management, and conservation practices. Studies in natural areas contribute to a better understanding of the effects on plants and animals when man influences the natural forces within the environment. Further, a protected natural area ensures the preservation of unusual and valuable or rare natural phenomena and also serves to provide examples of the processes of natural change and development through time.

Education

Natural areas are often the sites of unusual educational advantages and opportunities. These areas are very valuable for their "outdoor museum" exhibitions of the plant, animal, and mineral worlds. Such environments are useful for demonstrating the ecological roles of different species living in diverse habitats. In these biotic communities, natural science students are afforded the opportunity to learn about natural cycles and the interactions between living organisms.

Besides ecology there are other informational and educational values that may be derived from natural areas, such as geological and historical values. As noted earlier in the Introduction, this catalog includes these types of areas or sites.

Aesthetic

Most natural areas are scenic places and thus are attractive to people because of pleasant landscapes and the relaxing atmosphere they engender and project to visitors or observers. In addition, such areas offer a space for privacy or a buffer from the crowdedness of urban and metropolitan areas. Often natural areas are limited in size acreage-wise but may be present within the confines of intensively developed segments of the landscape. Thus, they can and do provide that intangible value of "open space."

THE PROBLEM

Both Maryland and the Nation are experiencing rapid growth in population. As a consequence there is an expanding demand for land to supply homesites, factory sites, industrial parks, shopping centers, parking lots, streets and highways, and airports ad infinitum. Obviously, there is a heavy demand being placed on undeveloped open space land. These areas are often left over because of their original unattractiveness to development. Now the diminishing supply of land in intensively developed areas makes economically feasible the filling in or draining of wetlands, the carving up of hillsides and filling of ravines, and the cutting of remaining woodlands. These natural areas represent the last vistages of what this country once was like prior to colonization. As such they represent an important segment of our natural heritage which we are continually losing. If present and future generations are to enjoy the benefits that may be derived from natural areas the citizenry must first be made aware of the existence and the values inherent in them. While acquaintance with and appreciation of natural areas does not guarantee protection of remaining natural areas, it is an essential step if equitable decisions are to be made concerning the future of the natural resource base. Thus, this catalog's thrust is to fill in the education gap which seems to exist on natural areas in Maryland and eventually encourage total appreciation and consequent preservation of Maryland's diminishing natural environment.

NOTES ON NATURAL AREAS IN THIS CATALOG

There are 184 natural areas listed in this catalog. Among them in categories with values other than "natural" are historical areas, scenic, geologic, and sites specifically noted for ecological values.

All of the areas cataloged here total approximately 471,838 acres. The largest is Lower Dorchester Coastal Marshes in Dorchester County with 90,000 acres. One of the smallest is Westover Spring in Somerset County with less than one acre. Table 1 shows the ownership pattern of the cataloged areas. The greatest number of these areas is in private ownership.

Table 1. Ownership pattern of natural areas in Maryland

Ownership	Number
Private	105
Public	43
Private and Public	16
Quasi-public*	13
Private and Quasi-public	5
All of the above	2
Total	184

* Organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of America, The Nature Conservancy, etc.

HOW TO USE THE CATALOG

There are two specific ways of locating a natural area within this catalog:

1. Refer to the County Index to Natural Areas starting on page 5. The areas are listed alphabetically with appropriate page number within their respective counties on a county by county basis.

2. Refer to the Alphabetical Index to Natural Areas starting on page 8. All the natural areas are listed alphabetically with appropriate page number regardless of the county in which they are located.

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ALLEGANY COUNTY

NAME: Chesapeake and Ohio Canal

LOCATION: Along the Potomac River from Cumberland to Washington, D. C. (also in Washington, Frederick, and Montgomery counties)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 4,475

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Part of Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Monument, the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal is an excellent example of the canal phase of our early national transportation system; navigation of the canal began as the divisions were completed - from Georgetown to Seneca in 1831, then to Harper's Ferry in 1833, to near Hancock in 1839, and finally to Cumberland in 1850; the canal was used for transporting coal, flour, grain and lumber until 1924; total length of the canal is 184.5 miles, and total rise in elevation between Georgetown and Cumberland is approximately 605 feet; beautifully wooded (oak-hickory) throughout its entire length, the canal area encompasses several interesting and unusual natural areas; major natural areas are discussed as separate areas within this catalog, while minor areas are listed as follows: Plummer Island Reserve, a 58-acre area of floodplain, forest, and rock outcrop located about 4 miles northwest of Washington, D. C.; the remains of the old Maryland Mine, a gold mine of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, located in the Great Falls area about 7 miles from Washington, D. C.; the Hughes archeological site, an ancient Indian village near the canal about 22 miles from Washington, D. C.; the great scenic bluffs along the Potomac River opposite Mason Island, about 40 miles from Washington, D. C.; the Arched Folds, an unusual natural geologic formation of less than one acre, located about one mile west of Hancock; and the Devil's Eyebrow syncline, interesting V-shaped rock strata, located about 9 miles southwest of Hancock; and the Paw Paw tunnel, 3,000 feet in length.

OWNERSHIP: Public (National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Cumberland Bone Cave

LOCATION: 1.5 miles NNW of Cumberland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Discovered in 1912 during construction of a portion of Western Maryland Railway track, it has yielded a rich fossil fauna; systematic excavations were undertaken by the U. S. National Museum, 1912-15; remains of 46 species, 28 of which are extinct, were recovered; some fossils are of warm climate animals like the tapir and crocodile, others were of colder climate (wolverine, mink, marten); conclusion is that deposition of fossils took place over prolonged period of glacial and interglacial conditions, probably middle Pleistocene Age.

OWNERSHIP: Private.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Cumberland Narrows

LOCATION: 1.5 miles NW of Cumberland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 320

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Spectacular mountain gorge through Wills Mountain along valley of Wills Creek; red shales of the Juniata Formation overlain by white cliff-forming Tuscarora Sandstone; immense slopes (covered by masses of boulders and broken rocks) rise from a base elevation of about 700 feet to a maximum elevation of about 1,500 feet; discovered in 1755 by a lieutenant in Braddock's army.

OWNERSHIP: Private.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Although the slopes are too steep for much development, lower areas are subject to strip residential and commercial use, and higher areas can be despoiled by unsightly billboards and other signs.

ALLEGANY COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Dan's Mountain (Eastern Slope)

LOCATION: Centered 5.0 miles SW of Cumberland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 19,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Eastern flank of Dan's Mountain, Piney Mountain, and little Allegheny Mountain; approximately 22 miles long, and 1-1½ miles in width from crest of Dan's Mountain to base of eastern slope; area is beautifully wooded, primarily of oak-hickory, but also maple-beech-birch at the eastern extreme of these species' concentration in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private and public (about 7,700 acres by State Department of Game and Inland Fish at Dan's Mountain Wildlife Management Area).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect, except on State-owned portion.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Major problems include construction of television transmitter towers and commercial development along U. S. Route 40, Md. Route 36, and Md. Route 135; also, programmed highway construction and reconstruction through area.

NAME: Green Ridge and Town Hill Mountains

LOCATION: Centered 4.0 miles N of Paw Paw, W. Va.

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 13,600

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Remarkably scenic area along entrenched meanders of Potomac River; oak-hickory forests and shale barrens; remote, primitive area; part of area scheduled for acquisition to expand Green Ridge State Forest.

OWNERSHIP: Private and public (approximately 7,800 acres by State Department of Forests and Parks at Green Ridge State Forest).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect only for State-owned portion.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Pinto Geologic Section

LOCATION: 1.7 miles SSW of Cresaptown

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 5

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Excellent geologic exposure of Devonian and Silurian sandstone-shale-limestone formations beginning with the Helderberg on the west, to the Tonoloway, and ending with the Rose Hill on the east; frequently fossil-bearing; cut occurs along B. & O. Railroad.

OWNERSHIP: Private.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Potomac Blue Spring

LOCATION: 3.6 miles SSE of Cumberland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: Less than one

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Probably the largest spring in Maryland; flow measured at intervals over a two-year period ranged from 5 million to 14 million gallons per day; area is part of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Monument and may be used as supplemental water supply for Cumberland.

OWNERSHIP: Public (National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

ALLEGANY COUNTY

NAME: Twigg's Cave

LOCATION: 6.0 miles ESE of Cumberland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Largest cave in Maryland; opened and explored in 1898 but few indications of early study are now existant; a stream runs through the cave forming 3 shallow pools each about 10 feet long; the stream and pools are found 192 feet below and 375 feet from the entrance.

OWNERSHIP: Private.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

NAME: Angel's Bog

LOCATION: 3.0 miles ESE of Jacobsville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 60

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Sphagnum bog containing northern vegetation at southern extreme--including pitcher plant, cranberry, and sundew; also contains southern vegetation toward northern extreme of its range--including magnolia; most of bog plants thrive on a substratum of sphagnum moss; growing near the shore on more solid ground are such plants as rough leafed alder, high bush blueberry, red maple, and scrub pine; adjacent to Fresh Pond (20-acre expanse of water with development on one side), bog is surrounded by hardwood forest of poplar, oak, and hickory; haven for wide variety of birdlife; situated within 15 miles of Baltimore City and 35 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Suburban expansion is bringing residential and commercial development to the site.

NAME: Bluebell Meadow Island

LOCATION: 10.6 miles SE of Laurel

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Island located at Priest Bridge at point where Md. Route 3 crosses Patuxent River, covered with profusion of wildflowers and highlighted by Virginia bluebells; when the bluebells are in full bloom, the entire island appears to be blue when viewed at a distance; within 20 miles of Washington, D. C., and 25 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Industrial development is reported to be under consideration.

NAME: Bodkin Point

LOCATION: 10.5 miles ESE of Glen Burnie

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 225

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Wooded neck of land protruding northward into Chesapeake Bay; excellent bird habitat; shallow fresh marshes near point; huge cypress knees and stumps are found here; largely undisturbed, with no persons living in most of the area; approximately 2 miles of waterfront, partially lined with beaches; within 20 miles of Baltimore City and 40 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential development is reported to be under consideration; also, serious shore erosion.

NAME: Corcoran Tract

LOCATION: 5.5 miles ENE of Annapolis

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 138

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Large expanse of natural oak-pine woodland, considered the last tract of virgin timber in tidewater Maryland; originally known as Pohickory, the tract has remained undeveloped since the original grant in 1654; inscribed stone boundary markers, which were set in place prior to the American Revolution, are still standing; the oak trees are several hundred years old; also included is a bamboo grove of more than 2 acres; area has been set aside as a wildlife preserve by several past owners, with a wide variety of animals and birds having been observed in the area; a number of hiking trails cross the tract and have been used in the past for bird-watching and study of wildflowers; part of Sandy Point State Park; within 25 miles of Baltimore City and 40 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Public - (State Department of Forests and Parks).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Elvaton White Rocks

LOCATION: 3.5 miles SE of Glen Burnie

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Only upland outcropping of rock formation known as Raritan in a coastal plain region of Maryland; boulders of siliceous rock, sufficiently pure for use as glass sand; geologic phenomenon; within 15 miles of Baltimore City and 30 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential encroachment is imminent.

NAME: Hock Tract

LOCATION: Contiguous to and NNW of Annapolis

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 15

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: This area has been described as the Weems Creek "living science museum"; contains many original trees and undisturbed vegetative areas judged by the Nature Conservancy as outstanding for ecological studies; within 25 miles of Baltimore City and 30 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Public - (State Roads Commission).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Java Farm/Ivy Neck

LOCATION: 7.0 miles SSW of Annapolis

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 700

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: The Java Farm and Ivy Neck areas possess unique potentials as sites for ecological research in an estuarine environment; vegetation is mixture of oak-gum hardwood forests (including several stands of extremely old, large trees), brush, cultivated fields, and shallow fresh marshes, with about 4 miles of water frontage on Rhode River and West River; within 30 miles of both Baltimore City and Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private and public - (leased by Smithsonian Institute).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Lake Waterford

LOCATION: 5.0 miles SE of Glen Burnie

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 11 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Unusually attractive lake surrounded by oak-pine woods; abundant bass, perch, and pike; within 15 miles of Baltimore City and 30 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Public - (Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Mayo Point

LOCATION: 4.3 miles S of Annapolis

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 80

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Area is rich in flora and is unique in its undisturbed status; it is the only concentration of woodland (oak-pine-gum) left on the shores of lower South River; also consists of scattered slat meadows; within 30 miles of both Washington, D. C., and Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential encroachment continues.

NAME: Patuxent Marshes
(See Prince George's County)

NAME: Patuxent Wildlife Research Center
(See Prince George's County)

NAME: Round Bay Bog

LOCATION: 6.0 miles NW of Annapolis

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 110

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Cranberry/sphagnum moss bog, with holly and magnolia; haven for wide variety of birdlife; within 25 miles of both Baltimore City and Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Severn River Headwaters Area

LOCATION: 4.0 miles SSW of Glen Burnie

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 800

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Beautiful, rugged, heavily wooded (oak-hickory-pine) area, traversed by most southerly trout stream in Maryland (Severn Run); within 15 miles of Baltimore City and 20 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential encroachment continues.

NAME: South River Headwaters Area

LOCATION: 5.0 miles W of Annapolis

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Scenic, steeply sloping, heavily wooded (oak-pine) western shore of South River at headwaters, with sections of shallow fresh marsh; within 25 miles of both Baltimore City and Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential encroachment continues.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Thomas Point

LOCATION: 5.0 miles SSE of Annapolis

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 44

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Outstanding beach and waterfront area along South River at confluence with Chesapeake Bay; within 30 miles of both Baltimore City and Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Public - (Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Whitehall

LOCATION: 4.0 miles NE of Annapolis

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 120

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Built in 1764, the estate of Horatio Sharpe, early governor of Maryland; house is surrounded by gardens laid out by "Capability" Brown; long view of Whitehall Bay, one-quarter mile distant; has been identified by the U. S. Department of the Interior as eligible for National Historic Landmark distinction; within 25 miles of Baltimore City and 35 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No permanent preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Property is reported to be for sale.

BALTIMORE CITY

NAME; Bare Hills
(See Baltimore County)

NAME: Cylburn Park

LOCATION: Green Spring and Cylburn Avenues

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 174

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: An outstanding wooded (oak-hickory) bird sanctuary, with abundant growth of flowers; serves as nursery for flowers and shrubs planted in other city parks; utilized by city schools, scout troops, and Maryland Ornithological Society for major nature study programs.

OWNERSHIP: Public (Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Gwynns Falls Valley

LOCATION: Extending northwest out of Baltimore City
(also in Baltimore County)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 3,500

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Picturesque stream valley wending its way for about 15 miles southeast from near Soldier's Delight (via Red Run) to downtown Baltimore City; bottomland along sparkling stream is inhabited by many birds and smaller mammals, with numerous varieties of unusual woodland and meadow plants; within 40 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private and public (in Baltimore City where part is owned by Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect, except within Baltimore City where both Leakin Park and Gwynns Falls Park serve to keep the land undeveloped.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Encroachment continuing and expected to be accelerated by reconstruction of Md. Route 26 and possible construction of Northwest Expressway through area.

BALTIMORE COUNTY

NAME: Baisman Run Valley

LOCATION: 3.0 miles W of Cockeysville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 850

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: A beautiful, wooded (oak-hickory) watershed for Baisman Run, which extends about 2 miles between Falls Road and a crossing at Ivy Hill Road; represents one of the few remaining forest complexes in the urbanizing portions of Baltimore County; used by the Johns Hopkins University for major geomorphologic research; located within 10 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private and quasi-public.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No permanent preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential encroachment occurring rapidly.

NAME: Baltimore Highlands

LOCATION: Contiguous to and SSW of Baltimore City

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 260

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: An area referred to locally as "the mud flats," approximately 90 per cent is shallow fresh marsh; large portion is frequently flooded by the Patapsco River, which flows along its eastern border; sanctuary for waterfowl; excellent stands of willows along the Patapsco River and around the 50-acre lagoon; within 35 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

BALTIMORE COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Bare Hills

LOCATION: Contiguous to and NNW of Baltimore City (also in Baltimore City)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 400

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Area of serpentine rock barrens located adjacent to Baltimore City; these interesting barrens are uncultivated stretches which support only a sparse growth of grasses and trees on the thin soil mantle, due to slow rate of weathering and decomposition and to rapid rate of erosion; streams are spring-fed, flowing almost all year, and emptying into either Jones Falls or Lake Roland to the east; numerous mines, shafts, and caves developed in the area by chrome and copper seekers in the early nineteenth century.

OWNERSHIP: Private and public (the easternmost portion is owned by Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks at Robert E. Lee Park).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect, other than in park portion.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Encroachment is continuing and has been facilitated by construction of the Jones Falls Expressway through the area.

NAME: Gunpowder Falls Valley

LOCATION: Laterally across Baltimore County, centered 10.0 miles N of Baltimore City

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 10,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Beautiful stream valley extending for about 25 miles diagonally across Baltimore County from the Carroll County boundary near Prettyboy Reservoir to Gunpowder Neck (near Gunpowder River's confluence with Chesapeake Bay); surrounded by scenic agricultural area, with oak-hickory forest lining the stream banks over much of its length; distance from Baltimore City ranges between 5 and 30 miles.

OWNERSHIP: Private and public (approximately 1,300 acres owned by State Department of Forests and Parks at Gunpowder State Park).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Essentially no preservation in effect, except for State-owned portion.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential encroachment occurring rapidly.

BALTIMORE COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Gwynns Falls Valley
(see Baltimore City)

NAME: Hart and Miller Islands

LOCATION: 6.0 miles ENE of Sparrows Point

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: Hart - 156; Miller - 44

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Only major islands in the Baltimore metropolitan area; possess outstanding beaches and variety of vegetative cover; within 10 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Hayfields

LOCATION: 8.0 miles NNW of Baltimore City

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 474

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: With the house built in 1808 of stone quarried on the property, this farm has been in continuous cultivation for more than a century and a half; awarded prize by General Lafayette on visit in 1824 as one of best tilled farms in Maryland; former home of John Merryman (of "Ex parte Merryman" fame in 1861); this farm was a pioneer in the development of Hereford cattle in the United States; beautiful pastoral setting, with numerous stone buildings and fine trees around main house.

OWNERSHIP: Private.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No permanent preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Suburban expansion northward from Baltimore City increases problem of intrusion and also potential for sale and development.

BALTIMORE COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Limekiln Hollow

LOCATION: 3.5 miles NNE of Baltimore City

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 700

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: A marble-underlain valley containing several of the most attractive dairy farms in Maryland; these farms are located just north of Cromwell Bridge Road and are drained by a beautiful stream (Minebank Run); on the northern slope is a stand of high oak trees.

OWNERSHIP: Private.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Very imminent, with residential development already in existence at the western extreme of the valley and likely to encroach.

NAME: Little Gunpowder Falls Valley

LOCATION: Baltimore-Harford County boundary

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 5,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Flowing through an area of rolling, open farmland and large estates near its source, the river enters a well-wooded stretch of steeper hills as it makes its way toward tidewater; much of the land along the 23 miles long stream is densely covered with groves of hardwoods (oak-hickory); rocky pools are a frequent occurrence; turbulent falls and rapids are common; river flows beneath an old wooden covered bridge near Kingsville; distance from Baltimore City ranges between 10 and 35 miles.

OWNERSHIP: Private and public (approximately 1,000 acres owned by State Department of Forests and Parks at Gunpowder State Park).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Essentially no preservation in effect, except for State-owned portion.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Most imminent in southern portion and in vicinity of major highways, where residential and commercial development is burgeoning.

BALTIMORE COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Long Green Creek Valley

LOCATION: 8.0 miles ENE of Towson

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 900

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Unusually scenic stream valley, with stream flowing for about 5 miles through oak-hickory forest and pastoral setting, emptying into Gunpowder Falls; within 10 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private, public (approximately 130 acres owned by State Department of Forests and Parks at Gunpowder State Park) and quasi-public (50 acres).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Essentially no preservation in effect, except for State-owned and quasi-public portions.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Considerable residential development, especially in vicinity of more southern stretches near confluence with Gunpowder.

NAME: Patapsco Gorge

LOCATION: Section of Patapsco River valley between Ellicott City and Woodstock (also in Howard County)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1,500

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Deep ravine along 10-mile stretch of Patapsco River, located mostly within Patapsco State Park; the river is very sinuous in this area, meandering considerably in a deeply entrenched valley; area is largely wooded, containing a variety of hardwoods (oak-hickory); within 10 miles of Baltimore City and 35 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Primarily public (State Department of Forests and Parks).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect for State-owned portion.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

BALTIMORE COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Sheppard-Pratt Forest

LOCATION: 1.5 miles N of Baltimore City

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 75

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Stand of very tall, straight oak trees on the grounds of Sheppard-Pratt Hospital; trees are probably the oldest and most imposing of their kind in the general area; terrain is rolling, with several small streams draining forest.

OWNERSHIP: Private.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Soldier's Delight

LOCATION: 5.0 miles SSW of Reisterstown

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2,500

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Highly unusual metropolitan natural area with tree growth consisting of scattered pines, post oaks, and other hardwoods, and with large barren areas occurring throughout site; underlain by serpentine rock, with frequent outcroppings seldom observed elsewhere in eastern United States; covered by numerous wildflowers, including rare holy grass and fringed gentian; one of the first American chromium mines was on this site; used by the Johns Hopkins University as field laboratory for geomorphologic research; within 10 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF DESPOILMENT: Suburban expansion westward from Baltimore City is bringing increased residential development to the site.

BALTIMORE COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Western Run Valley

LOCATION: 3.0 miles SW of Butler east to Loch Raven Reservoir

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2,500

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Attractive stream valley located in a pastoral setting, with some intermittent stretches of hardwood (oak-hickory), which become more common as one travels eastward; stream flows for about 10 miles across a relatively flat valley floor, with especially steep slopes on the south bank along much of its length; used by the Johns Hopkins University for geomorphologic research; located within 10 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Continuing residential development northward from Baltimore City places area under encroachment.

NAME: Worthington, Green Spring, and Caves Valleys

LOCATION: Centered about 6.0 miles NNW of Baltimore City

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 52,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Beautiful rolling valleys largely in agricultural use; also contain numerous extensive country estates (some of the finest horse farms in the eastern United States are located here); long the favored locale for gracious country homes of noted Maryland families.

OWNERSHIP: Private.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Zoning provides only minimal protection from incompatible development; private citizens' group in Worthington, Green Spring, and Caves Valleys has devised long-term preservation plan.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Intensive residential development attracted to this area and gradually is moving into the valleys, detracting from pastoral setting.

NAME: Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

LOCATION: 4.0 miles S of Prince Frederick

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 100

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Stand of baldcypress, 10-48 inches in diameter and up to 100 feet in height, near the northern extreme of its natural range; contains other vegetation of southern types, also southern fauna such as the pine woods tree frog which before 1949 was not thought to exist north of the Dismal Swamp in Virginia; certified as a Natural Landmark by the U. S. Department of the Interior; within 35 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Quasi-public

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

CALVERT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Calvert Cliffs

LOCATION: Western shore of Chesapeake Bay along virtually the entire coast of Calvert County.

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 725 (30 miles long, averaging 200 feet in width)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Steep banks--up to 75 feet in height--containing abundance of fossil remains dating from the Miocene Age; reported to be one of the best sites for collection and study of such fossils along the Atlantic seaboard; within 30 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No permanent preservation in effect, except for portion under protective covenant at Scientists' Cliffs, near Port Republic.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Continuing residential and commercial encroachment.

CALVERT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Choptank River Marshes
(See Talbot County)

NAME: Hellen Creek Hemlock Preserve

LOCATION: 4.0 miles N of Solomons

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 21

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Site contains stand of hemlock and beech, far south of their natural range in Maryland; located in the vicinity of St. Paul's Branch and Hellen Creek in a heavily wooded (oak-gum) area.

OWNERSHIP: Quasi-public

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Patuxent Marshes
(See Prince George's County)

CAROLINE COUNTY

NAME: Garland Lake

LOCATION: 3.5 miles NE of Denton

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 50 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Picturesque pond surrounded primarily by woodland (oak-pine); maximum depth is 15 feet, average depth 3.5 feet; abundant bass, pike, bluegills, perch, and crappie; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Hemlock Stand on Mill Creek

LOCATION: 4.3 miles SSW of Denton

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: Less than one

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: On south bank of Mill Creek, a stand of hemlocks far east and south of their natural range in Maryland; area is mostly wooded swamp (oak-gum); can be approached best by boat from Mill Creek.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Linchester Pond

LOCATION: In Linchester

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 24 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Historic wooded (oak-pine) pond associated with Linchester grist mill, reputed to be one of the oldest business establishments still in continuous operation in the United States; maximum depth is 10 feet, average depth 3 feet; abundant pike, bass, bluegills, and crappie; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

CAROLINE COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Mud Mill Pond

LOCATION: 1.5 miles ENE of Henderson

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 24 (water) in Maryland; 36 (water) in Delaware

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Interesting wooded (oak-gum) pond, with maximum depth of 9 feet and average depth of 3 feet; abundant bass, bluegills, and catfish; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Smithville Lake

LOCATION: In Smithville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 45 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Inviting wooded (oak-gum) pond, with maximum depth of 12 feet and average depth of 3 feet; abundant pike, bass, bluegills, and crappie; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Public (State Department of Game and Inland Fish)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Tuckahoe Creek Shoreline

LOCATION: Caroline-Talbot county boundary

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 3,700

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Beautiful shoreline extending approximately 12 miles on both sides of Tuckahoe Creek; wooded portions (Loblolly and Virginia pine, oak-hickory) interspersed with deep fresh marshes.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Virtually no preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

CAROLINE COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Williston Lake

LOCATION: 4.2 miles NNE of Harmony

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 80 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Attractive pond only sparsely surrounded ny woodland; maximum depth is 22 feet, average depth 5 feet; abundant perch, bass, bluegills, and crappie; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Quasi-public

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

CARROLL COUNTY

NAME: Bachman's Valley

LOCATION: 5.5 miles NNE of Westminster

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 4,200

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Fertile agricultural valley which has been described as model rural landscape; slopes gradually to the southwest; trenched to a depth of between 150 and 200 feet over most of its length; within 35 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential encroachment continues.

NAME: Morgan Run Valley

LOCATION: 6.0 miles S of Westminster

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Beautifully wooded (oak-hickory) and steeply-banked stream valley extending approximately 6 miles west from Liberty Reservoir; within 20 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential encroachment continues.

CECIL COUNTY

NAME: Bull Mountain Wilderness Area

LOCATION: 7.0 miles SSW of North East

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 182

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: A northern deciduous forest (beech-maple) far east of its natural range in Maryland, situated on a promontory at level about 150 feet above elevation of surrounding lands; gives commanding view of upper Chesapeake Bay.

OWNERSHIP: Quasi-public

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation provided by quasi-public ownership.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Pumping Station

LOCATION: In Chesapeake City

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: Less than one

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: The stone pump house was built in 1837; contains a waterwheel, 40 feet in diameter, that formerly ran day and night lifting water into the canal to replace water lost every time a vessel passed through the lock; waterwheel still operational; now a registered National Historical Landmark.

OWNERSHIP: Public (U. S. Department of the Army)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Although in public ownership, periodic widening of the canal may require its removal.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Widening of canal may cause eventual removal.

NAME: Conowingo Barrens

LOCATION: 7.0 miles W of Rising Sun (also in Harford County)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 4,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Area of shallow (8-10 inches) unproductive soil, derived from the weathering of serpentine-peridotite-pyroxenite rock; vegetation is stunted with gnarled or twisted oaks and pines, and some scanty growth of grasses; shaly surface extends for several miles in a northeast-southwest direction on either side of the Susquehanna River, narrowing toward the southwest.

OWNERSHIP: Quasi-public and private.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect other than that provided by quasi-public ownership, which comprises nearly half of the total area.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Frazer's Lake

LOCATION: 2.5 miles NW of Cecilton

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 45 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Attractive fresh water lake created by the construction of a dam across Scotchman Creek; lake was used to store water for operation of a mill at the northern end--Red Camp Mill; hardwood forest (oak-hickory) adjoins lake on all sides; maximum depth is 9 feet, average depth 3 feet; abundant pike, bass, bluegills, and crappie; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Garrett Island

LOCATION: 1.5 miles N of Havre de Grace

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 175

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Largest island in Susquehanna River, located near the river's mouth; island was named for John W. Garrett, President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company during the Civil War; in 1622, Edward Palmer, an Englishman, attempted to establish a trading post there, but the venture failed, and he willed the island to Oxford University; the island is of such hardness (subsurface primarily of granite and gabbro) that the river has flowed around it without noticeable erosion; although the island is relatively flat, it rises moderately on the western side and provides an excellent vantage point upstream; although the footings of the B. & O. Railroad bridge and U. S. Route 40 bridge are placed in the island, their existence has not detracted appreciably from the area's aesthetic quality.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems, other than littering from automobiles and accumulation of debris from the river.

NAME: Octoraro Creek Valley (Upper)

LOCATION: 3.5 miles WNW of Rising Sun

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 900

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Deeply entrenched meandering gorge of Octoraro Creek, winding through oak-hickory hardwood forests; rugged scenic area, with banks frequently sloping more than 20 per cent along the 2½ miles' length of stream; unusually clear water, with abundance of shad; formerly location of numerous grist and paper mills.

OWNERSHIP: Quasi-public and private.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect on quasi-public portion; no preservation in southern part.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Although more than half of the total area is protected by quasi-public ownership, the remaining portion is subject to increasing residential encroachment.

CECIL COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Principio Furnace

LOCATION: 3.0 miles ENE of Perryville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 5

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Principio iron works established 1715; furnace operated for nearly a century, making bar iron and supplying cannon balls during the Revolutionary War; original furnace destroyed in 1813 and rebuilt in 1836 at present site, operating until about 1910; amidst natural scenery, ruins of this second furnace (bricklined) and a turbine waterwheel are visible in the tangled undergrowth of the mill-race between the Pennsylvania Railroad and Md. Route 1; ore originally obtained in immediate area, but soon more extensive deposits at greater distance were used (Patapsco River banks).

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Vandalism causes problems.

NAME: Susquehanna Flats

LOCATION: 3.0 miles SE of Havre de Grace
(also in Harford County)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 15,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Mud flats at the mouth of the Susquehanna River; flats are periodically inundated by water, depending on tides and flow in the river; excellent feeding grounds for migratory waterfowl and fish (particularly shad and rock); water, which is practically fresh, varies from one foot to 10 feet in depth.

OWNERSHIP: Public - State of Maryland (Board of Public Works).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Most imminent danger is pollution from the Susquehanna River, although some concern involves waterway-deepening proposals.

CHARLES COUNTY

NAME: Grayton Talbot Terrace Scarp

LOCATION: 1.7 miles ESE of Grayton

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 400

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: One of few inland cliff-like areas remaining in Maryland's coastal plain; geologic phenomenon, with abrupt change in topography carved out by the advances and retreats of the ocean during the Pleistocene Age; at this site, a sudden increase of 40 feet in elevation occurs at between 20 and 60 feet above mean sea level, evidencing layers of clay, peat, sand, and gravel; within 35 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Maryland Point

LOCATION: 14.0 miles SSW of Indian Head

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 9,700

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: An extensive tract located along the Potomac River in southwestern part of the county; approximately 93 per cent of the area is wooded, varying from pine to hardwood types; topography varies from rolling to nearly level; judged to be the best area for forest game management on the entire lower Potomac; one of the most isolated areas of Southern Maryland; area has been cited as exceptionally in need of preservation, by the report of the Potomac Task Force, U. S. Department of the Interior; within 35 miles of Washington, D.C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Area is very attractive for future residential development, which should be accelerated with programmed completion of four-lane highway from Washington, D. C. to Indian Head.

CHARLES COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Mattawoman Creek Valley (lower)

LOCATION: Centered 1.0 miles NE of Marbury

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 4,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Heavily wooded (oak-hickory) stream valley of approximately 10 miles in length, including much deep fresh marsh; extremely level across valley floor--in contrast with steep, hilly lands bordering the site; marshes cited by Potomac Task Force, U. S. Department of the Interior, as an outstanding natural environment area, worthy of preservation; within 20 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Virtually no preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential encroachment continues.

NAME: Newburg Talbot Terrace Scarp

LOCATION: 2.0 miles SSE of Newburg

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 600

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: One of few inland cliff-like areas remaining in Maryland's coastal plain; geologic phenonmenon, with abrupt change in topography carved out by the advances and retreats of the ocean during the Pleistocene Age; at this site the scarp involves a sudden increase of 60 feet in elevation, exhibiting sections of clay, peat, sand, and gravel at between 40 and 100 feet above mean sea level; within 40 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

CHARLES COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Pope's Creek Geologic Section

LOCATION: 7.0 miles SSE of Port Tobacco

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 5

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: A nearly vertical bluff on the Potomac River about 80 feet high; gives an excellent exposure of Eocene, Miocene, and Pleistocene geologic layers, containing multitudes of fossils; within 35 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Port Tobacco

LOCATION: 2.0 miles SW of La Plata

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 180

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: This archeological site was inhabited by Indians ruled by a queen when Captain John Smith came here in about 1607; Father Andrew White taught Indian children at this town, which became the economic center of colonial Maryland with its thriving tobacco port; in 1658, Port Tobacco was made the county seat of Charles County; it functioned as the county seat until 1895; the Victorian courthouse remains in process of restoration; within 30 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

CHARLES COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Zekiah Swamp

LOCATION: Centered 4.0 miles E of La Plata

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 15,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Sixteen-mile long fresh-water, hardwood (oak-gum) swamp of unusually large size for being so close to metropolitan Washington, D. C., and within a long-cultivated area; typical southeastern flora and fauna prevail; the State Department of Game and Inland Fish indicates they consider this site "the most important phase of wildlife preservation and recreational development in the Southern Maryland area"; outstanding archeological site with cultural remains among oldest in Maryland; within 25 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: New community of St. Charles City may bring residential encroachment to area; also, programmed improvements of Md. Routes 5 and 6 may cause problems through swamp.

DORCHESTER COUNTY

NAME: East New Market Basin

LOCATION: 1.2 miles E of East New Market

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 150

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: This unusual topographic depression is 2,800 feet in diameter; maximum change in elevation from the highest point on the rim (52 feet above mean sea level) to the lowest in the center (32 feet) is 20 feet; it appears to have been formed by the oceanic deposition of rims of sand on the pre-existing plain during late geologic history; important as catchment area for rainfall and recharge of underground water sources (aquifers).

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Higgins Pond

LOCATION: 7.0 miles SE of Cambridge

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 110 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Surrounded by shallow fresh marsh, this is one of the largest ponds in Maryland; maximum depth is 18 feet, average depth 3 feet; abundant crappie, bluegills, bass, and catfish; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Quasi-public

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No permanent preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Pond is for sale.

NAME: LeCompte Bryant Fox Squirrel Refuge

LOCATION: 3.0 miles SW of Vienna

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 485

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Mixed hardwood-softwood coastal forest having the unique combination of vegetation necessary as habitat for the nearly extinct Bryant fox squirrel; one of the few such places in the mid-Atlantic region.

OWNERSHIP: Public (State Department of Game and Inland Fish)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Lower Dorchester Coastal Marshes

LOCATION: Centered about 10.0 miles S of Cambridge.

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 90,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Largest aggregate of coastal salt and fresh marshes in Maryland; outstanding winter feeding ground for waterfowl, with 11,200-acre Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge (in site) reported to attract greatest concentration of wintering waterfowl on Atlantic Flyway; vital habitat for many forms of wildlife; produces micro-organisms upon which finfish, shellfish, and crabs of Chesapeake Bay are dependent.

OWNERSHIP: Primarily private, although nearly 22,000 acres are owned by the Federal and State governments.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: 11,200 acres in Federal wildlife refuge; 10,500 acres in two State wildlife management areas (open to hunting); no preservation in effect for remainder.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Mosquito control program involving large-scale ditching -- now under consideration in Dorchester County -- would severly damage the marshes.

DORCHESTER COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Savannah Lake

LOCATION: 9.5 miles SSW of Vienna

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 40 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Serene pond surrounded by fresh water marsh; abundant bass, bluegills, and catfish; maximum depth is 7 feet, average depth 3 feet; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

FREDERICK COUNTY

NAME: Amelung Glassworks

LOCATION: 8.0 miles S of Frederick

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 5

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Archeological site where in 1785 John Frederick Amelung and a group of workmen from Bremen, Germany, began producing some of the finest early American glass; Amelung's special pieces are judged superior to any produced by his competitor, Stiegel of Pennsylvania; one of the most valuable pieces of glass in America today is an early engraved chalice made by Amelung during his first years at this "New Bremen Glass Works" and now on exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum in New York; site being excavated by Smithsonian Institution and Corning Glass Company; within 35 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Vandalism has been considerable; also, any building construction on site will damage remaining glass pieces.

NAME: Appalachian Trail

LOCATION: Along the boundary line between Frederick and Washington counties (also in Washington County)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: The Appalachian Trail is the longest marked footpath in the world; it stretches for more than 2,000 miles along the crest of the Appalachian Mountains, from Mt. Katahdin in central Maine to Mt. Oglethorpe in northern Georgia; the Trail crosses 14 states, and its elevation ranges from sea level to 6,641 feet above sea level; it has outstanding recreational value providing the hiker with ideal conditions for enjoyment of a primitive setting and beautiful landscapes; the Maryland portion of the Trail is 37 miles long; it runs along a narrow ridge from Pen Mar to Weverton; at Weverton the Trail follows the abandoned Chesapeake and Ohio Canal towpath west and then crosses the Potomac River via a bridge at Sandy Hook, one mile east of Harper's Ferry.

OWNERSHIP: Primarily private except for about 600 acres publicly owned by State Department of Forests and Parks where Trail passes through several State Parks.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Area is maintained by local Appalachian Trail clubs, by agreement with the private owners mainly individuals.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Continuing encroachment by residential development and utility companies (pylon towers), which may force relocation of trail more than 50 miles westward.

NAME: Big Hunting Creek Valley (Upper)

LOCATION: Centered 2.0 miles W of Thurmont

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 500

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Exceptionally scenic stream valley encompassing a 3-mile section of Big Hunting Creek, one of the State's most outstanding trout streams due to its proximity to Baltimore City and Washington, D. C.; area is wooded (oak-hickory, with hemlock also) and steeply sloping; part of Catoctin Mountain Recreational Demonstration Area (Federal) and Cunningham Falls State Park.

OWNERSHIP: Public (National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, and State Department of Forests and Parks).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems so long as proposed impoundment maintains oxygen and temperature requirements of trout.

FREDERICK COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Buzzard Flats

LOCATION: 5.5 miles SW of Thurmont

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 800

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Rugged forest (oak-hickory) area with most interesting mountain vegetation (e.g., Table Mountain pine, beaked hazelnut, and sweet fern); area is small plateau on Catoctin Mountain.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Catoctin Furnace

LOCATION: 3.5 miles S of Thurmont

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Original furnace built in 1774 and has been rebuilt several times since then; used to smelt brown hematite ore; the remains of this furnace are the most extensive of all such furnace remains of this period in the State; these remains consist of the ruins of two stone towers joined by a stone wall; abandoned ore pits are still visible.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Chesapeake and Ohio Canal,
(see Allegany County)

NAME: Frederick Municipal Forest

LOCATION: 10.0 miles NNW of City of Frederick

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 8,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Beautifully forested expanse of land drained by Fishing Creek, with Reservoir near the southern end of the tract, serves as water supply for the City of Frederick; the hardwood (oak-hickory) forest is traversed by several dirt roads and numerous hiking paths; the terrain is generally hilly, rising to over 1,800 feet in elevation in the northern portion.

OWNERSHIP: Public (City of Frederick)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Middletown Valley

LOCATION: 8.0 miles SW of City of Frederick

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 52,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Rolling upland situated in the southern valley between Catoctin and South mountains, generally regarded as the most beautiful agricultural mountain valley in Maryland; the valley floor typically lies at 500 to 600 feet in elevation, although trenched to an elevation of 200 to 300 feet by Catoctin Creek and its tributaries; the floor rises northward to over 1,800 feet in elevation; a portion of the valley is within 40 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Continuing residential and commercial encroachment.

FREDERICK COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Monocacy Battlefield

LOCATION: 3.0 miles SSE of City of Frederick

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 100

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Site where on July 7, 1864, Union Generals Wallace and Tyler with 2,700 men took position; they were joined on July 8 by 3,350 men from General Rickett's division; on July 9 they were met by Confederate General Jubal Early and his 15,000 troops; this bloody battle ended in a decisive Union defeat, but the delay it caused Early probably prevented the Nation's capital from falling into Confederate hands; Federal casualties were 1,880, and the Confederates lost between 600 and 700; presently a proposed National Historic Landmark; within 35 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Continuing residential and commercial encroachment.

NAME: Point of Rocks

LOCATION: 12.0 miles SSW of City of Frederick

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 20

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Southernmost point in the Maryland portion of the Catoctin Mountain anticline (A-shaped rock strata); cut into Catoctin Mountain made by the B and O Railroad shows green Catoctin Metabasalt at the center of the anticline; these cliffs above the Potomac River exhibit two tight, overturned anticlines; quarries in the area were the source of "Potomac Marble" used in U. S. Capitol; within 40 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Sugarloaf Mountain

LOCATION: 10.0 miles SSE of City of Frederick

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1,800

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Prominent knob in southeastern Frederick County, mountain (also known as "Stronghold" estate) rises to an elevation of 1,282 feet, contrasting against surrounding plain of about 500 feet in elevation; this quartzite monadnock is visible for many miles; the 150-foot cliff that forms the summit is broken by a narrow ravine filled with large boulders of quartzite; foot trail follows ravine to the top, which is nearly flat; steep slopes are covered by oak-hickory woodland; within 35 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Quasi-public

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: South Mountain Battlefield,
(see Washington County)

NAME: Weverton Cliffs

LOCATION: 3.0 miles WNW of Brunswick
(also in Washington County)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 50

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: High cliffs which overlook the Potomac River at southern end of South Mountain; cliffs several hundred feet in height expose the extremely hard quartzite of the Weverton formation, the main ridge-making formation in the eastern mountains of the Appalachian region in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

GARRETT COUNTY

NAME: Carey Run Bird Sanctuary

LOCATION: 5.0 miles WNW of Frostburg

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 52

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Abandoned farm, with approximately 20 acres in second growth hemlock, maple, beech, and oak woods; outstanding for bird populations; several streams and springs in area; two nature trails have been cut.

OWNERSHIP: Quasi-public

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Casselman Bridge

LOCATION: 1.0 miles E of Grantsville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 5

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Stone arch bridge built in 1813 to carry the National Road across Casselman River; longest single span bridge in the United States at the time of its construction; unused at present, but still in excellent repair; was the bridge over which much of the American westward expansion passed; has been designated as a National Historic Landmark by U. S. Department of the Interior and is a part of Casselman Bridge State Park.

OWNERSHIP: Public (State Department of Forests and Parks)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

GARRETT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Cherry Creek Glades and Peat Bog

LOCATION: 9.5 miles SE of Friendsville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1,200

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Unusual northern extensive grassy openings in forest cover underlain in this area by the Conemaugh Formation of shales, sandstone, limestone, and coal; thick deposit of peat, some appearing mossy and some more woody; operated commercially since summer 1963 as a source of peat.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Commercial peat operation may be disruptive.

NAME: Cranesville Swamp

LOCATION: 9.0 miles NNW of Oakland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 8 in Maryland, 251 in West Virginia

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Site is a natural bowl or forest pocket at elevation of 2,500 feet above mean sea level, and poorly drained; cool, moist conditions are conducive to plant and animal growth generally found in more northerly latitudes, typically Arctic; for example, the larch (evergreen) observed here is far south of its natural range; the saturated floor of the swamp is covered by sphagnum and other mosses; site remains a remnant of boreal forest persisting since the Ice Age although surrounded by deciduous forest typical of the region; certified as a Natural Landmark by the U. S. Department of the Interior.

OWNERSHIP: Quasi-public

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

GARRETT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Crystal Spring

LOCATION: 2.0 miles E of Oakland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 5

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Beautiful spring which pours pure cold water into the northern end of Mountain Lake; water comes from the mountainside into a rocky basin, from which it passes into the Lake itself; a drive goes along the shore to this attractive spot, and seats and picnic tables have been installed to accommodate visitors.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No permanent preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Finzel Swamp

LOCATION: 3.0 miles NNW of Frostburg

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 160

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Northern wooded swamp containing larch, hemlock, red spruce, cranberry, and high-bush blueberry; "a piece of Canada."

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Fort Pendleton

LOCATION: 8.0 miles SSE of Oakland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 5

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Fragmentary remains of this Civil War fort used by the Union army to guard the Potomac River; grand view of river from the old earthworks; fine archeological site.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

GARRETT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Friend's Cave

LOCATION: 6.0 miles S of Friendsville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 3

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: A cavern known since colonial days, cave is specifically cited in Colonel Francis Deakin's Survey of Military Lots in 1787; numerous names and dates on the walls, the oldest date being December 22, 1751; although the cave has the connotation "saltpeter," there is little evidence that it was mined extensively for saltpeter earth; the only evidence of digging is in the rear portion, where a large stalagmite has been all but obliterated by chipping; stream shows indications of having been trenched and may indicate some type of mining operation; formations are rare, consisting of a few flowstone drapes and stalactites.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Hammel Glade Swamp

LOCATION: 6.0 miles NNE of Oakland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 175

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Northern wooded swamp containing larch and other northern species, with extensive grassy openings; beaver abundant.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Hoye's Crest (Backbone Mountain)

LOCATION: 11.5 miles SSW of Oakland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2,500

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Backbone Mountain affords magnificent view from the highest point in the State, Hoye's Crest; overlooks vast mountain ranges of hardwood forest; a marker at this 3,360 feet elevation on Backbone Mountain honors C. E. Hoye, founder of the Garrett County Historical Society; near this point is a replica of the famous Fairfax Stone, much disputed boundary marker of Lord Fairfax's lands at the source of the North Branch of the Potomac River.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: McCulloch's Path

LOCATION: 1.0 miles W of Oakland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1,100

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: McCulloch pack horse path; used by Indians and settlers as overland route connecting Youghiogheny and Potomac rivers; 22 miles long in Maryland; originally buffalo trace; oldest known trail in Garrett County.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

GARRETT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Muddy Creek Falls

LOCATION: 6.5 miles N of Oakland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 5

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Highest waterfall in the State; crystal clear water which tumbles over 64-foot ledge near confluence with Youghiogheny River; the falls are framed by tall slopes with giant hemlocks; delicate mist which is created by the falling water makes for interesting ecological situation; home of three species of salamanders found in few other parts of the State; ferns, sundews, and other plants abound in the area; part of Swallow Falls State Park.

OWNERSHIP: State Department of Forests and Parks.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Pine Swamp Run Glade

LOCATION: 4.0 miles NW of Barton

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 80

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Unusual cool, wet area covered by grass in midst of oak-hickory forest; underlain by Pocono formation sandstone and shale.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Sand Cave

LOCATION: 4.5 miles SE of Oakland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 3

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Largest shelter type cave in Maryland; on east flank of Backbone Mountain; located at elevation of 2,750 feet; suited for human habitation, and its history of use as a dwelling goes back to Indian times; arrowheads, charcoal, flint chips, charred bones, and other remnants have been recovered from the cave entrance; entrance is 100 feet wide and 2 to 6 feet in height.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Savage River Dam Geologic Section

LOCATION: 3.7 miles WNW of Bloomington

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 3

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Excellent outcrop of the red shales and gray linestone of the Greenbrier formation (Mississippian) at east end of Savage River Dam; this formation represents the last major incursion of the sea into the Appalachian trough.

OWNERSHIP: Public (U. S. Department of the Army).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

GARRETT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Swallow Falls

LOCATION: 6.0 miles N of Oakland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 5

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Named for numerous cliff swallows which were found here in pioneer days; series of low, cascading falls in the Youghiogheny River; surrounded by mountain hardwood forest which also contains 120 feet tall virgin stands of hemlock; part of Swallow Falls State Park.

OWNERSHIP: Public (State Department of Forests and Parks).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Tolliver Falls

LOCATION: 6.0 miles N of Oakland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 5

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Series of low, cascading falls located on Tolliver Creek, near the confluence with the Youghiogheny River; part of Swallow Falls State Park.

OWNERSHIP: Public (State Department of Forests and Parks).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Underwood Road Quarry

LOCATION: 4.0 miles SW of Oakland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 5

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Quarry in the Greenbrier formation (Mississippian); interesting because of fossil concentration and variety, including sea-lilies and coral.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

GARRETT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: University of Maryland Reserve

LOCATION: 10.0 miles SW of Grantsville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 460

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: A northern deciduous forest (maple-beech-birch) situated within the Pleasant Valley 4-H Recreation Center; part of the site is being utilized for experiments of the University's Natural Resources Institute, attempting the introduction of white pine.

OWNERSHIP: Public (Cooperative Extension Service, University of Maryland)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Warrior's Path

LOCATION: 4.0 miles W of Oakland

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 900

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Famous Indian trail, 18 miles long in Maryland; many Indian camps found along its route; primarily used by northern and southern tribes for access to hunting grounds and by war parties traveling between distant villages; very sparse permanent Indian settlement in this part of Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

GARRETT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Youghiogheny River Valley

LOCATION: Extending northeast and north from Crellin to Friendsville.

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2,500

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Extremely steep gorge through which this beautifully forest-lined (oak-hickory) river passes, its rapid flow and waterfalls, and its essentially undeveloped river frontage make it one of the leading "wild rivers" in the East and paralleled only by the Pocomoke River in its uniqueness in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Pollution from acid mine wastes is a serious problem.

HARFORD COUNTY

NAME: Aberdeen and Edgewood Coastal Marshes

LOCATION: Western shore of Chesapeake Bay

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 5,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Complex of coastal shallow fresh marshes, outstanding as winter feeding ground for waterfowl; vital habitat for many forms of wildlife; important as recharge areas for aquifers, produce micro-organisms upon which finfish, shellfish, and crabs of Chesapeake Bay are dependent; currently within Aberdeen Proving Ground and Edgewood Arsenal; within 25 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Public (U. S. Department of Defense)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Encroachment restricted, but military activities may reduce value of these marshes for wildlife.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Conowingo Barrens,
(see Cecil County)

NAME: Deer Creek Valley

LOCATION: 7.0 miles N of Bel Air, extending from Rocks State Park to U. S. Route 1

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 750

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Outstandingly scenic stream valley, virtually undeveloped along its heavily wooded (oak-hickory) banks; section extends approximately 6 miles; within 25 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Little Gunpowder Falls Valley,
(see Baltimore County)

HARFORD COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Rock Ridge

LOCATION: 7.5 miles NNW of Bel Air

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 500

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Area has a most interesting collection of ferns, both as to number of species and growth; magnolia tripetala occurs in outstanding stand of tulip poplar; rugged hillsides, with frequent outcroppings of Wissahickon schist; area is still largely undisturbed; within 30 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: About 300 acres private and 200 acres quasi-public.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect, except on quasi-public land.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Rock Run Bird Sanctuary

LOCATION: 4.5 miles NW of Havre de Grace

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 57

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Abandoned farm, partially covered by oak-hickory woods and old orchards; noteworthy for concentration of birdlife; within 30 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private, but leased by quasi-public organization.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No permanent preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Susquehanna Flats,
(see Cecil County)

NAME: Susquehanna River Shoreline (Right Bank)

LOCATION: Between Conowingo Dam and John F. Kennedy Highway

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Spectacularly scenic area stretching about 6 miles along the right bank of the Susquehanna River, partially within Susquehanna State Park; area was the site of a canal, several mills, and accompanying buildings constructed during the late 18th and early 19th centuries; attempts to construct a canal took place in 1797 and 1840, both being partly successful in bringing temporary settlements along the stream, but railroad competition forced their abandonment; old locks, canal, and towpath are still there, although the physical condition has deteriorated; one large mill--at Rock Run Road--is still standing and appears in excellent condition; area is extremely significant ecologically, being a point where wooded hillsides meet a surging river--these cliffs have been the sites of eagle nests, and swampy canal bed is the home of many amphibians, plants, and smaller mammals; part within 35 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Primarily private although 300 acres are owned publicly by State Department of Forests and Parks.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No permanent preservation in effect for non-State portion.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential encroachment continues.

HOWARD COUNTY

NAME: Camel's Den Cave

LOCATION: 1.5 miles SE of Woodstock

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Located in Patapsco State Park, the cave is a shallow rock shelter in Cockeysville marble situated some 20 feet above the Patapsco River; archeological diggings have produced a large number of artifacts; within 15 miles of Baltimore City and 30 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Public (State Department of Forests and Parks)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Doughoregan Manor

LOCATION: 5.0 miles W of Ellicott City

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 3,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Manor house built in 1727; the home of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, who survived all other signers of the Declaration of Independence, the wealthiest man in America at the time of his death--1832; extremely large estate, where the hounds are blessed each Thanksgiving prior to the Howard County Hunt Club chase; within 15 miles of Baltimore City and 25 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No permanent preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential encroachment continues.

NAME: Little Patuxent River Valley (U. S. Route 1 to B. & O. Railroad)

LOCATION: 3.5 miles SW of Waterloo

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 500

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Mature oak-hickory forest in midst of dense suburban development, along 1½-mile stream valley; within 20 miles of both Baltimore City and Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential and commercial encroachment continues.

NAME: Middle Patuxent River Valley (Simpsonville to Homewood Road)

LOCATION: 2.0 miles NW of Simpsonville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 4,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Well-forested (oak-hickory) river valley, containing unusual concentration of wildflowers; area is one of the few remaining stretches of hardwood forest of comparable size in the metropolitan area; within 20 miles of Baltimore City and 25 miles of Washington, D. C.

ONWERSHIP: Primarily private, although Howard County Board of Commissioners own approximately 940 acres under the Patuxent River Watershed Act.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect, except for County-owned portion.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Patapsco Gorge,
(See Baltimore County)

HOWARD COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Patuxent River Valley (Md. Route 27 to Md. Route 97)
(also Montgomery County)

LOCATION: Centered 5.0 miles ESE of Damascus

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 6,300

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Outstandingly beautiful river valley extending approximately 10 miles and containing extensive stands of hardwoods (oak-hickory) with large concentrations of wildlife; within 20 miles of both Washington, D. C., and Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

KENT COUNTY

NAME: Chester River Estuary (Upper End)

LOCATION: 8.5 miles SSW of Chestertown
(also in Queen Anne's County)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1,850 (water); 2,000 acres of riparian land

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Brackish area of Chester River bordered by essentially unwooded, rich agricultural land; cultivated land extends generally to the shoreline, with occasional salt meadows and shallow fresh marshes; combination of corn and other grain production in immediate proximity to river's edge makes this estuary part of the most outstanding feeding ground for migratory Canada geese in Maryland; the area has high scenic value with its pastoral beauty.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Eastern Neck Island

LOCATION: 7.0 miles S of Rock Hall

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2,250

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Area is partially wooded, almost entirely flat, with salt meadow shoreline along the eastern and southern shores; a few houses built in the 18th century are still standing; the island is a haven for migratory waterfowl and is under acquisition by the U. S. Department of the Interior for National Migratory Bird Refuge status.

OWNERSHIP: Public (U. S. Department of the Interior)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

KENT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Langford Talbot Terrace Scarp

LOCATION: 2.5 miles SSE of Fairlee

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 300

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: One of few inland cliff-like areas remaining in Maryland's coastal plain; geologic phenomenon, with abrupt change in topography carved out by the advances and retreats of the ocean during the Pleistocene Age; at this site, the scarp involves a sudden increase of 40 feet in elevation exhibiting sections of clay, peat, sand, and gravel at between 20 and 60 feet above mean sea level.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Millington Pond

LOCATION: 0.8 mile NE of Millington

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 69 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Attractive pond surrounded by wooded swamp (oak-gum); maximum depth is 9 feet, average depth 3 feet; abundant bass, bluegills, and crappie; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

KENT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Napley Green/Ringgold Point

LOCATION: 12.0 miles SW of Chestertown

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 750

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Beautiful peninsular tract essentially flat, wooded (mixed oak-hickory and pine) over half its area, with shallow fresh marshes throughout remainder; part of outstanding Chester River feeding ground for migratory Canada geese.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No permanent preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Remington Farms

LOCATION: 6.3 miles WSW of Chestertown

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 3,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: A wildlife management demonstration area, operated in cooperation with the State Department of Game and Inland Fish, on property once owned by Glenn L. Martin, leading airplane manufacturer; includes cultivated fields, woodland (oak-hickory), shallow fresh marshes, and 18 fresh-water ponds that range from one acre to 30 acres in size; thousands of waterfowl and concentrations of rabbits, squirrels, and quail are sheltered here; scientific experiments in land management for wildlife purposes are conducted.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

KENT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Sandy Bottom Talbot Terrace Scarp

LOCATION: 1.5 miles SW of Fairlee

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 500

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: One of few inland cliff-like areas remaining in Maryland's coastal plain; geologic phenomenon, with abrupt change in topography carved out by the advances and retreats of the ocean during the Pleistocene Age; at this site, the scarp involves a sudden increase of 40 feet in elevation exhibiting sections of clay, peat, sand, and gravel at between 40 and 80 feet above mean sea level.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Shorewood Estate

LOCATION: 2.0 miles NE of Galena

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 240

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Formerly the estate of noted airplane designer Guiseppe Bellanca; contains a mile and a half of outstandingly scenic waterfront on Sassafras River, consisting of high banks above a narrow beach; ten acres are in a terraced, formal garden; about 75 acres are in woodland (oak-gum) and 155 acres in open fields.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No permanent preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

KENT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: St. Paul's Pond

LOCATION: 6.0 miles WSW of Chestertown

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 22 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Scenic pond in wooded setting adjacent to historic St. Paul's Church (completed in 1713); maximum depth is 9 feet, average depth 3 feet; abundant bass and bluegills; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private corporation.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

NAME: Bear Island

LOCATION: 8.5 miles SSW of Rockville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 125

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Beautiful, densely wooded (oak-hickory) island situated in Potomac River near Great Falls; part of Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Monument; overall length is about two miles; outstanding site for the study of crystalline-rock geology (occurrence of amphibolite, metasediments, and granite); within 15 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Public - (National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Cabin John Branch Valley (Lower)

LOCATION: 7.5 miles S of Rockville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 630

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Stream valley park (Cabin John Park), encompassing brief stretch--one-half mile--of unusually scenic stream; surrounding land primarily oak-hickory woodland, brush, and grassland; within 10 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Public - (Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Chesapeake and Ohio Canal
(See Allegany County)

NAME: Coquelin Run Bird Area

LOCATION: 2.5 miles S of Kensington

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 7

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Area includes a stream and waterfall; outstanding concentration and variety of birds, with over 70 different species of birds sighted, some very rare in the Washington, D. C., region; most of the land is wooded with trees typical of the Piedmont country (oaks, blue beech, spice bush, etc.); within 2 miles of Washington, D. C., and 35 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Surrounding area has been developed in suburban housing and there is immediate danger that this area will be similarly utilized.

NAME: Great Falls

LOCATION: 8.0 miles SSW of Rockville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1,150

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Section of the Potomac River of unusual scenic beauty due to series of rushing waterfalls extending for a distance of approximately 3 miles; shoreline is beautifully wooded (oak-hickory), and boulders jut up from the River's water; part of Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Monument; within 15 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Public - (National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

NAME: Beltsville Bog

LOCATION: 3.0 miles N of College Park

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: Less than one

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Small concentration of sphagnum moss, magnolia, and related bog vegetation; consists of area about 100 feet square and is fenced, on National Agricultural Research Center grounds; within 15 miles of Washington, D. C., and 25 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Public - (U. S. Department of Agriculture).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Muirkirk Bog

LOCATION: 3.0 miles S of Laurel

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: A semi-swamp area becoming progressively a bog as the swamp dries and the soil becomes more acidic; located at the edge of Blue Pond, on National Agricultural Research Center grounds; at present the vegetation is mostly woods (oak-hickory) and vines but is expected to contain more flowering plants as the succession process thins out forest growth; within 15 miles of Washington, D. C., and 20 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Public - (U. S. Department of Agriculture).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Patuxent Marshes

LOCATION: 2.5 miles E of Upper Marlboro (also in Anne Arundel and Calvert Co's)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 6,500

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: The Patuxent marshes cover about 3,800 acres in Prince George's County, with 1,700 acres in Anne Arundel County and 1,000 acres in Calvert County; these are shallow fresh marshes with vegetation including cattails, reed, golden club, pickerel-weed, swamp rose, myrtles, groundsel bush, and salt marsh cordgrass; outstanding wildlife habitat, the only site in Maryland where railbirds (sora) concentrate during fall migration; within 25 miles of Washington, D. C., and 40 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Patuxent Wildlife Research Center

LOCATION: 2.0 miles NW of Bowie (also in Anne Arundel Co.)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2,600

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Data collected and evaluated by the Center relates to wildlife management and conservation, including habitat requirements and development methods, life history, disease and parasites, control methods for nuisance and destructive animals, and toxicity of pesticides and their effect on growth and reproduction; this area is a controlled mixture of vegetative types, ranging from cultivated fields to oak-pine woodland (and swamp), with numerous small ponds; within 15 miles of Washington, D. C., and 20 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Public - (U. S. Department of the Interior).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Piscataway Creek Indian Village

LOCATION: 3.0 miles WNW of Farmington Lodge

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 224

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Close to the Potomac River is Mayaone, the Indian village marked on Capt. John Smith's map with a "King's House"; the village was burned during the reprisals following the 1622 Indian uprising in Virginia, and the surviving Piscataway people established their next home along Piscataway Creek, where they were living when Calvert arrived; more extensive archeological and anthropological study has been done here than anywhere else in Maryland, with the cooperation of the Smithsonian Institution; more than 1,000 skeletons and a large number of artifacts have been removed; studies indicate that the site was occupied for many hundreds of years by people of varying cultural levels, some of them dating back possibly to the pre-Christian era; a small museum holds the artifacts and some of the bones, and a small stone structure protects and preserves an uncovered burial pit where skeletons have been left untouched; within 15 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private and quasi-public.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect only for quasi-publicly owned portion.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential encroachment continues.

NAME: Suitland Bog

LOCATION: 3.0 miles E of Washington, D. C.

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 5

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Regarded as finest example of magnolia-sphagnum moss bog in Baltimore-Washington, D. C., metropolitan complex; once considered as basis for 190-acre National Park; rapidly being reduced in size by suburban encroachment; within 40 miles of Baltimore City.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Suburban expansion eastward from Washington, D. C., is bringing residential and extractive (quarrying) development to the site; serious despoilment is in process due to changes in ground water table and reduction of site's size.

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY

NAME: Chester River Estuary
(See Kent County)

NAME: Kent Narrows Marshes

LOCATION: 4.0 miles SW of Queenstown

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1,800

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: This salt marsh area has unequalled scenic value, as it is traversed by U. S. Routes 50-301 near the eastern terminus of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge; it is the only salt marsh of comparable size and beauty traversed by a four-lane highway in Maryland; the needlerush, salt marsh cordgrass, and other vegetation make this area fine habitat for migratory waterfowl, which are observed by motorists.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: None in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: This area is being rapidly developed for marina, residential, and other intensive uses.

NAME: Queenstown Talbot Terrace Scarp

LOCATION: 1.0 mile ESE of Queenstown.

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1,600

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: One of few inland cliff-like areas remaining in Maryland's coastal plain; geologic phenomenon, with abrupt change in the topography carved out by the advances and retreats of the continental ice mass during the Pleistocene Age; structure of the scarp (including clay, peat, sand, and gravel) is evident at this site, where a sudden increase of 40 feet in elevation occurs at between 20 and 60 feet above mean sea level.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Unicorn Lake

LOCATION: 4.0 miles N of Sudlersville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 50 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Surrounded by farmland, this lake contains abundant perch, pike, bass, bluegills, and crappie; has a maximum depth of 14 feet, average depth 3.5 feet; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Public (State Department of Game and Inland Fish)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Wye Island

LOCATION: 5.0 miles SW of Wye Mills

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2,700

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Cultivation comprises half of the area of this beautiful island bounded by the Wye and Wye East rivers; along the shoreline bluffs are common, interspersed with small salt meadow areas; less than 10 per cent of the island is woodland (Loblolly and Virginia pines); site of Wye Hall, formerly great estate (c. 1790), is on island and of archeological interest.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Wye Mills Pond

LOCATION: In Wye Mills

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 50 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: This historic pond provides excellent public fishing for bass and bluegills; maximum depth is 12 feet, average depth 3 feet; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland, with a colonial mill still standing and in operation.

OWNERSHIP: Public (State Department of Game and Inland Fish)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

ST. MARY'S COUNTY

NAME: Cherryfield Point

LOCATION: 4.0 miles SW of St. Mary's City

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 248

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Heavy-timbered (oak-pine) and salt meadow area, bounded by St. Mary's River and St. George's Creek; identified as Goose Point and described as a "unique ecological area" in the report of the Potomac Task Force, U. S. Department of the Interior.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Cool Springs (Ye Coole Springs)

LOCATION: At Charlotte Hall

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 10

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Five principal springs, known in colonial times as "Ye Coole Springs" or "Fountains of Healing Waters" because of the healing effect these waters had on people who were suffering from "the pestilence" in the 1690's; set aside as a health resort in 1698 by an Act of the Assembly; site of the first sanitarium in America; the springs now provide water for the Charlotte Hall Military Academy and are well cared for, each spring being enclosed within a permanent brick covering; within 40 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

ST. MARY'S COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Cornfield Point Geologic Section

LOCATION: 3.0 miles NW of Point Lookout

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 10

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Occurring in bluffs along the Potomac River, rare exposure of a Pleistocene Age clay, fossil-bearing in Maryland; contains a large assemblage of marine molluscan shells.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Drayden Geologic Section

LOCATION: 1.5 miles SW of St. Mary's City

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 10

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Bluffs along the St. Mary's River in St. Mary's Formation, representative of the Miocene Age and highly fossil-bearing; consists of bluish sandy clay and fine sandstones, rich in fossil gastropods (snails).

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

ST. MARY'S COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Maddox Talbot Terrace Scarp

LOCATION: 9.0 miles WNW of Leonardtown

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 600

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: One of few inland cliff-like areas remaining in Maryland's coastal plain; geologic phenomenon, with abrupt change in topography carved out by the advances and retreats of the ocean during the Pleistocene age; at this site a sudden increase of 60 feet in elevation occurs at between 40 and 100 feet above mean sea level, evidencing layers of clay, peat, sand, and gravel; within 40 miles of Washington, D. C.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Point Lookout

LOCATION: 4.0 miles SE of Scotland.

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 55

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Low-lying point of land with sandy beaches at the confluence of the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay; U. S. Coast Guard Station includes lighthouse built in 1830; cemetery here is on the site of a fort where more than 3,000 Confederate prisoners died; one of the two forts built to defend the mouth of the Potomac and Chesapeake Bay and was later made a prison camp; part of Point Lookout State Park.

OWNERSHIP: Primarily public - (State Department of Forests and Parks).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Poplar Hill Creek Area

LOCATION: 6.0 miles SE of Leonardtown

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 700

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: An area containing one of the most beautiful mature stands of pine and mixed hardwoods along the whole of the Potomac estuary, according to the Potomac Task Force, U. S. Department of the Interior; has three miles of Potomac River frontage, with good beach.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Redgate Talbot Terrace Scarp

LOCATION: 4.5 miles SE of Leonardtown

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 400

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: One of few inland cliff-like areas remaining in Maryland's coastal plain; geologic phenomenon, with abrupt change in topography carved out by the advances and retreats of the ocean during the Pleistocene Age; at this site the scarp involves a sudden increase of 60 feet in elevation exhibiting sections of clay, peat, sand, and gravel at between 40 and 100 feet above mean sea level.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: St. Clement's Island

LOCATION: 8.0 miles SW of Leonardtown

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 64

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: This sparsely wooded island, also called Blakiston Island, is a short distance from Colton Point in the Potomac River; the Ark and the Dove dropped anchors here in March 1634, bringing the first permanent colonial settlement to Maryland; a 40-foot cross commemorates that first landing and mass held by Father Andrew White; although utilized primarily as a wildlife management area, picnicking areas have been developed in cooperation with the State Department of Forests and Parks.

OWNERSHIP: Public - (State Department of Game and Inland Fish).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: St. Mary's City

LOCATION: 5.5 miles S of Lexington Park

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 200

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Outstanding archeological area, where in 1634 on Lord Baltimore's plans an orderly town was laid out for the first permanent colonial settlement in Maryland; the little community of colonists prospered to the point that in 1676 they erected a statehouse here for the provincial assembly; this city was the capital of Maryland until 1694 when Annapolis was chosen as a more convenient site; years later, St. Mary's City lost its status as the county seat to Leonardtown and declined rapidly thereafter; few traces of the original town remain although it had once contained some of the finest buildings in colonial America.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Essentially no preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Sotterly

LOCATION: 8.2 miles NE of Leonardtown

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 45

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Manor house built about 1727 and located on beautiful, rolling estate having most commanding view of the Patuxent River; extensive fields between the house and the river; a truly splendid view of the river from the manor house; the manor house and grounds have been maintained continuously since 1727 by the Plater and Briscoe families.

OWNERSHIP: Quasi-public

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

SOMERSET COUNTY

NAME: Dublin Swamp Basin

LOCATION: 4.0 miles SE of Princess Anne

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Large shallow oval depression held to have been formed by the oceanic deposition of rims of sand on the pre-existing plain during late geologic history; important as catchment area for rainfall and recharge of aquifers.

OWNERSHIP: Private, except public for approximately 400 acres owned by State Department of Game and Inland Fish (Wellington Wildlife Management Area).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Essentially no preservation in effect, except for State-owned portion.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Fairmount Basin

LOCATION: 2.0 miles W of Upper Fairmount.

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 650

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Well preserved remnant of a shallow oval basin covering about one square mile of salt marsh and brush; appears to have been formed by the oceanic deposition of rims of sand on the pre-existing plain during late geologic history; important as catchment area for rainfall and recharge of aquifers.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Manokin River Banks

LOCATION: 2.0 miles W of King's Creek

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1,200

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: The banks of the Manokin River, from Main Street in Princess Anne southwesterly to Top Point, a distance of about 8 miles; this area includes site of the colonial Princess Anne wharves and the Custom House, presently being considered for development as City Park; remainder consists of shallow fresh marshes, important as wildlife habitat; traversed by four-lane U. S. Route 13, these banks have particular aesthetic value.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Pocomoke River Swamp
(See Worcester County)

NAME: Somerset Coastal Marshes
(Deal Island, Dames Quarter, Fairmount, Cedar Island)

LOCATION: Along eastern edge of Chesapeake Bay.

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 11,500

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Complex of coastal salt marshes, outstanding as winter feeding ground for waterfowl; vital habitat for many forms of wildlife; important as recharge areas for acquifers; produce micro-organisms upon which finfish, shellfish, and crabs of Chesapeake Bay are dependent.

OWNERSHIP: Primarily public - (State Department of Game and Inland Fish) with remainder owned privately.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect on State-owned property but not remainder.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

SOMERSET COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Westover Spring

LOCATION: 1.0 miles NE of Westover

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: Less than one

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Only major spring in Somerset County, and probably the largest spring on the Eastern Shore south of Salisbury; its water is of good quality and is a public source in the area; flow has been measured at 15,000-20,000 gallons per day, and use has averaged more than 5,000 gallons per day.

OWNERSHIP: Public - (Cooperative Extension Service, University of Maryland).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

TALBOT COUNTY

NAME: Choptank River Marshes

LOCATION: Talbot-Caroline counties boundary (also in Caroline County)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 3,500

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Shallow fresh marshes located on boundary line between Talbot and Caroline counties, with largest portions being in Talbot; outstanding wildlife habitat of type rapidly disappearing in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Easton Talbot Terrace Scarp

LOCATION: 3.0 miles N of Easton

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 400

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: One of few inland cliff-like areas remaining in Maryland's coastal plain; geologic phenomenon, with abrupt change in topography carved out by the advances and retreats of the ocean during the Pleistocene Age; exhibits structure of clay, peat, sand, and gravel at sudden 40-foot rise in elevation between 20 and 60 feet above mean sea level.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

TALBOT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Hambleton Island

LOCATION: 2.5 miles SSW of St. Michaels

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 64

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Highly scenic area, completely forested with Loblolly pines and located in Broad Creek; habitat of many forms of wildlife; perch, spot, and rock frequent the surrounding waters.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Mill Creek Bird Sanctuary

LOCATION: 2.0 miles SSE of Wye Mills

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 154

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Oak-pine forest, outstanding habitat for bird populations; no roads or buildings, only foot paths (two nature trails) have been cut; traversed by the upper reaches of Mill Creek; many springs.

OWNERSHIP: Quasi-public

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Tuckahoe Creek Shoreline,
(see Caroline County)

TALBOT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Tred Avon Estuary

LOCATION: Contiguous to Oxford

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1,600 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: The lovely, pastoral Tred Avon estuary, only about three miles long and one mile wide at its mouth, is lined by many famous houses; the once-great seaport of Oxford (tobacco was its chief ware) spreads along the eastern bank; agricultural lands--interspersed with patches of salt marsh and salt meadow--form the western bank, giving the city of Oxford an excellent scenic view which adds to the city's widely acclaimed tourist appeal.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Increasing development along shoreline.

NAME: Wye House and Plantation

LOCATION: 3.0 miles N of Copperville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 402

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Built in 1784, this superb manor house was built to replace earlier one constructed in 1661 but destroyed by fire; beautiful bowling green in front is bordered by formal secluded gardens as extensive as any left from colonial America, pre-dating the present house; estate has water frontage of about three miles in length along picturesque Wye East River and Lloyd Creek.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No permanent preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

TALBOT COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Wye Oak

LOCATION: In Wye Mills

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1.5

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Wye Oak is the largest white oak in the United States; believed to be over 400 years old, it is 95 feet tall with a horizontal spread of 165 feet; trunk is more than 27 feet in circumference; designated as Maryland State Tree and part of Wye Oak State Park.

OWNERSHIP: Public (State Department of Forests and Parks)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

NAME: Antietam Battlefield

LOCATION: 6.0 miles SW of Boonsboro

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 784

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Site of the most tragic one-day fight in the history of the United States, which took place September 17, 1862; more than 23,000 Confederate and Union soldiers were killed or wounded; along Bloody Lane, then known as Sunken Road, dead and wounded lay piled two to five deep; the battlefield is now a national historic battlefield park, but farmers cultivate the fields and cattle graze in most portions.

OWNERSHIP: Public (National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Continuing residential encroachment on periphery.

NAME: Appalachian Trail
(see Frederick County)

NAME: Beaver Creek Spring

LOCATION: 6.0 miles SE of Hagerstown

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Largest spring in Washington County; flow measured at intervals over two-year period ranged from nearly 3 million to about 5 million gallons per day; on grounds of Beaver Creek Fish Hatchery.

OWNERSHIP: Public (State Department of Game and Inland Fish)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Chesapeake and Ohio Canal
(see Allegany County)

NAME: Conococheague Creek Valley

LOCATION: Centered 6.5 miles W of Hagerstown

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 4,900

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Creek displaying the most beautiful meanders of any of the Potomac tributaries in Maryland; 22 miles long from where it enters county (from Pennsylvania) to mouth; very slight gradient--1.8 feet per mile, considerably less than gradient of Potomac River; entrenched approximately 100 feet into the slightly southward sloping valley floor; elaborate and regular meanders are restricted to a narrow zone which coincides very closely with the boundaries of the Martinsburg shale against the Chambersburg limestone; the western curves are flatter than the eastern ones; attractive flood plain, which broadens out in several places, containing several dwellings but mostly agricultural land.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Residential development along major highways; pollution from upstream.

NAME: Crystal Grottoes

LOCATION: 1.3 miles WSW of Boonsboro

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: Less than one

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Cave developed in the Tomstown Dolomite; some rooms are as much as 40 feet high; only cave in Maryland commercially maintained for tourism; discovered in 1920 as a result of quarrying operations for road material.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No permanent preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Devil's Racecourse

LOCATION: 3.5 miles NNE of Smithsburg

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: Less than one

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Unique geologic exposure of boulders of Weverton Quartzite in the Pen Mar-Blue Ridge Summit area; large "train" resembling dry bed of a river.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Elk Ridge

LOCATION: Centered 3.5 miles SE of Antietam

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 4,100

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: A scenic area of great significance for botanical study; has been visited by noted botanists for about two centuries; various species common to this particular locale in Maryland occur here.

OWNERSHIP: Primarily private, except for about 760 acres publicly owned by the National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior (Harper's Ferry National Historical Park).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect, except for Federally-owned portion.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Harper's Ferry Geologic Section

LOCATION: In Harper's Ferry National Historical Park

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 20

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Unusual geologic exposure of Cambrian quartzite, sandstone, and shale formations (Weverton Quartzite to the east and Harper's Formation to the west) above Potomac River along road from Sandy Hook to Pleasantville.

OWNERSHIP: Public (National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Mt. Aetna Cave

LOCATION: 6.0 miles NNE of Boonsboro

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 2

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Cave developed in Tomstown Dolomite, operated commercially for a short time in 1932; consists of a large lower passage (over 350 feet long) and an upper level of three rooms with low, narrow connecting passages.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Roundtop Geologic Section

LOCATION: 3.5 miles SW of Hancock

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 20

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Excellent geologic exposure of Silurian fossil-bearing formations (Wills Creek Shale, and Keyser and Tonoloway Limestones) to a height of about 600 feet above the Potomac River.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Snively's Cave No. 1

LOCATION: 1.5 miles SE of Keedysville

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: Less than one

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Entrance in the face of an old quarry on east side of Antietam Creek; more extensive at one time, but great part has been removed by quarrying operations; in Tomstown Dolomite; contains a beautiful, pure white flowstone, resembling a frozen waterfall; this formation is among the largest and most spectacular in any cave in Maryland, and it has escaped defacing.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: South Mountain Battlefield
(also in Frederick County)

LOCATION: 2.5 miles SE of Boonsboro

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 400

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: The battle of South Mountain was fought here and at Fox's Gap (one mile south) on September 14, 1862, during Lee's first invasion of Maryland; opposed to Lee's forces were Federal troops under General George B. McClellan; Federal losses in killed, wounded, and missing totaled 1,831, and Confederate losses were approximately the same; however, the heroic defense of their position by General D. H. Hill's forces probably saved the Confederate army from destruction as it gave Lee time to concentrate his forces at Sharpsburg.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Weverton Cliffs
(See Frederick County)

NAME: Woodmont Geologic Section

LOCATION: 8.0 miles SW of Hancock

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 40

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Fine geologic exposure of Devonian fossil-bearing formations beginning with the Helderberg Limestone on the east and ending with the Jennings shale and sandstone formation on the west; cut occurs along Western Maryland Railway.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

WICOMICO COUNTY

NAME: Barren Pond

LOCATION: 1.5 miles E of Mardela Springs

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 30 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Scenic wooded pond (oak-gum and pine) with maximum depth of 13 feet, average depth 3.5 feet; abundant bass and bluegills; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Leonard Mill Pond (Andrews)

LOCATION: 4.7 miles NNE of Salisbury

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 40 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Scenic woodland pond (oak-gum and pine) with maximum depth of 13 feet, average depth 3 feet; abundant bass, bluegills, crappie, and pike; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Primarily public - (County Commissioners of Wicomico County) remainder private.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect for County portion, but not for remainder.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Continuing residential development of shoreline.

WICOMICO COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Mockingbird Pond (Double Mills)

LOCATION: 2.5 miles E of Mardela Springs

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 15 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Attractive wooded pond (oak-gum and pine) with maximum depth of 6.5 feet, average depth 2.5 feet; abundant bass and bluegills; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Parker Pond

LOCATION: 3.2 miles ESE of Salisbury

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 27 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Fine wooded pond (Loblolly and Virginia pines) with maximum depth of 10 feet, average depth 2.5 feet; abundant pike, bluegills, crappie, and bass; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Pittsville Basin

LOCATION: 6.0 miles NE of Salisbury

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Very prominent low shallow basin; appears to have been formed by the oceanic deposition of rims of sand on the pre-existing plain during late geologic history; important as catchment area for rainfall and recharge of aquifers.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Pocomoke River Swamp
(See Worcester County)

NAME: Schumaker Pond

LOCATION: 2.3 miles SE of Salisbury

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 30 (water)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Partially wooded pond (Loblolly and Virginia pines), also bordered by shallow fresh marshes; maximum depth is 15 feet, average depth 3 feet; abundant crappie, pike, and bass; one of few remaining major ponds in Maryland.

OWNERSHIP: Public - (City of Salisbury)

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

WICOMICO COUNTY (con't)

NAME: Stump Point

LOCATION: 2.5 miles SSE of Nanticoke

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 600

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Large salt meadow at mouth of the Wicomico River; excellent habitat for migratory waterfowl.

OWNERSHIP: Private

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

WORCESTER COUNTY

NAME: Assateague Island (Federal and State seashore portion)

LOCATION: Extending SW from Ocean City

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 9,300

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Virtually undeveloped dunes and beach site with more than 60 miles of frontage on the Atlantic Ocean, Sinepuxent Bay, and Chincoteague Bay; one of few such undeveloped seashore areas along Eastern seaboard; generally recognized as best potential ocean-oriented recreation area remaining in northeastern United States.

OWNERSHIP: Private primarily, although about 650 acres are publicly owned by the State of Maryland.

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect for most of island; however, State Park covers 650 acres, and the Federal National Seashore Area will encompass remainder.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems, in view of Congressional action to acquire area.

NAME: Nassawango Creek Furnace

LOCATION: 3.5 miles NW of Snow Hill

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: Less than one

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Restored remains of the furnace, which was built in 1832; this furnace smelted the bog iron of Nassawango Creek until 1847; the furnace was surrounded by a mining village consisting of a hotel and more than 100 houses and stores, which have now disappeared and been replaced by beautiful Loblolly pine forests.

OWNERSHIP: Quasi-public

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Oak and Sassafras Hammocks

LOCATION: 2.0 miles E of Stockton

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 1,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Unusual combination of oak and sassafras hammocks (or hummocks -- round knolls with deep cultivatable soils and hardwood vegetation generally surrounded by areas of pines or other conifers, found frequently in Florida), salt marshes, ponds, and open waters; outstanding wildlife habitat; part of E. A. Vaughn Wildlife Management Area; has nearly 2 miles of frontage on Chincoteague Bay.

OWNERSHIP: Public (State Department of Game and Inland Fish).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Preservation in effect.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: No imminent problems.

NAME: Pocomoke River Swamp

LOCATION: S and SW of Maryland - Delaware boundary (also in Wicomico and Somerset counties)

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 18,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Extensive southern swamp at northern extreme of natural occurrence in United States; vegetation (including bald cypress, magnolia, holly, white cedar, and Spanish moss) typical of Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida; excellent wildlife habitat; this truly "wild river" and its swamp--including swamps along the tributary Nassawango and Dividing creeks-comprise the most unique and invaluable natural area in Maryland, widely acclaimed throughout eastern United States.

OWNERSHIP: Primarily private, although 500 acres are under preservation by quasi-public and approximately 1,000 acres by public (the State Departments of Forest and Parks, and Game and Inland Fish).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: No preservation in effect except for foundation and State properties indicated above.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Increasing residential and other development of shoreline, with danger of water pollution.

NAME: Sinepuxent and Chincoteague Marshes

LOCATION: Centered 10.0 miles ENE of Snow Hill

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE: 10,000

DESCRIPTION OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES: Complex of coastal salt marshes along western shores of Sinepuxent and Chincoteague bays, outstanding as winter feeding ground for waterfowl; vital habitat for many forms of wildlife; important as recharge areas for aquifers; produce micro-organisms upon which finfish, shellfish, and crabs of Sinepuxent and Chincoteague bays are partially dependent.

OWNERSHIP: Primarily private, except for approximately 1,100 acres publicly owned by State Department of Game and Inland Fish (E. A. Vaughn Wildlife Management Area).

CURRENT PRESERVATION STATUS: Essentially no preservation in effect, except for State-owned portion.

DANGER OF FUTURE DESPOILMENT: Increasing encroachment of residential and commercial development associated with recreational attractions of Ocean City and Assateague Island.